

Dutchess County Transportation Council
Planning Committee Meeting Summary

Wednesday, April 26, 2017, 10:00 – 12:00 p.m.

Dutchess County Planning Department (2nd Floor), 27 High Street, Poughkeepsie, NY

1. Introductions – See attached list.

2. Announcements

Mark Debald (DCTC) welcomed everyone to the meeting. Mark began by announcing the recent awards for the Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP)/Congestion Mitigation & Air Quality Improvement (CMAQ) program:

- \$2,080,000 was awarded to NYSDOT to expand park and ride capacity in the Taconic State Parkway Corridor in Dutchess County.
- \$1,560,000 was awarded to NYSDOT to expand park and ride capacity on the I-84 Corridor in Dutchess County.
- \$1,410,768 was awarded to Dutchess County to expand public transportation routes and hours of service.
- \$1,094,456 was awarded to the Town of Hyde Park to construct new ADA compliant sidewalks on Route 9.

Mark announced that NYSDOT will be issuing a call for projects for the FTA Section 5310 (Enhanced Mobility for Seniors & Individuals with Disabilities) Program, which provides federal funding to improve transportation services for seniors and persons with disabilities. In particular, the program supports transportation services that go beyond those already required by the Americans with Disabilities Act. Mark suggested municipalities reach out to new human service agencies that are eligible for this funding and encourage them to apply.

Mark noted that the State budget that was approved earlier this month includes a number of items related to various State transportation programs, such as CHIPS, BRIDGE NY, and PAVE NY:

- Consolidated Local Street and Highway Improvement Program (CHIPS) will have an additional \$140 million of additional capital for projects that the Legislature deems significant. This was split evenly at \$70 million each to the Senate and Assembly. The Senate used its allocation to fund \$10 million of the \$65 million increase in CHIPS. The \$65 million increase in CHIPS is a one-time allocation for extreme weather recovery. The Assembly has identified specific projects to receive \$15 million with more announcements forthcoming. Ray Oberly (Town of Clinton) inquired as to the relationship of this program to FEMA; Tom Weiner (NYSDOT) will look into the details of the plan and report back.
- BRIDGE NY will increase in the current SFY by \$50 million from \$100 million to \$150 million (with \$20 million of the increase specifically dedicated to culverts and reducing the funding threshold for culvert projects from \$100,000 to \$50,000 in order to expand eligibility for local municipalities.). The expected two-year BRIDGE NY solicitation increases from \$200

million to \$250 million. The state would like feedback on the application process, any areas of improvement. He added that NYSDOT is looking for feedback from applicants on what worked well and what could be improved in the next solicitation

- PAVE NY funding will remain the same.

Tom Weiner (NYSDOT) announced that Martin Evans accepted the position of Director of the Program Management Bureau in the Policy and Planning Division in the NYSDOT Main Office. Doreen Holsopple will serve as the acting Regional Local Project Liaison, guiding project sponsors through both the federal-aid process and state processes. Doreen's contact information is Doreen.Holsopple@dot.ny.gov and 845-431-5811.

Mark announced the release of an improved version of our [Bicycle Parking Location Finder](#). The application, developed by the Dutchess County Office of Central & Information Services, provides bicyclists with a variety of tools to make bicycling a more convenient way of moving about, to include the following features:

- Find my Location: allows the application to utilize the visitors GPS location and center the map on their position (ideal for mobile use).
- Google Street View: integration with street level photography to assist riders with pinpointing details about their current location or planned destination.
- Base maps: riders can switch between street mapping and aerial photos.
- Points of Interest (POI): riders can toggle Dutchess County's POIs to help plan their rides.
- Elevation Profiles & Distance: riders can view elevation maps with distance tracking along bike routes to better plan their ride.
- Resources: information has been added to help riders learn how to use bike racks and learn more about bicycling as an everyday transportation option.
- Location Specific Feedback: riders can now pinpoint locations using the map to inform the Transportation Council of missing, damaged, or new bike racks.
- Bike Rack Photos: Riders can get details and photos of each bike rack.

Though fully compatible with computers and tablets, the bike parking application is specifically tailored for use on smartphones. Mark encouraged the group to send updates with missing bicycle racks through the new portal.

3. Public Participation

Cynthia Ruiz (DCPT) announced that the new County public transit smart phone application has been released. The new application is called *DutchessTrack* and it tracks real-time data about the locations/schedules of the buses. She added that the new fareboxes for the County buses are up and running, and there is a tutorial on how to use them on the [Public Transit webpage](#). Bob LaColla (Town of Fishkill) noted that the application is only searchable when looking up 'Dutchess' not 'DutchessTrack;' Cynthia will look into this issue.

Tom Weiner (NYSDOT) stated that the statewide Pedestrian Safety Action Plan (PSAP) will be announcing a solicitation later this year for systematic safety improvements on State highways

within local communities. Priority will be given to ‘focus’ communities, one of which is the City of Poughkeepsie.

The group discussed the importance of coordination between agencies related to local planning projects, roadwork, construction, and shared resources. The group determined that an ongoing discussion on concerted collaboration efforts should be pursued. Mark Debald (DCTC) noted that he would invite Central Hudson to a future Planning Committee meeting. Tom Weiner (NYSDOT) stated that he would bring the NYSDOT repaving schedule to the next Planning Committee meeting.

4. STBG Off-System Bridge Funding

Mark Debald (DCTC) explained that the Off-System Bridge Program is a federal funding program administered by the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), through the New York State Department of Transportation (NYSDOT) and DCTC. The program provides federal funds for 80 percent of the costs associated with the rehabilitation and/or replacement of county and locally owned bridges that are not located on a federal-aid eligible road. A total of \$3.6 million in federal funding is available to Dutchess County under this program. A list of eligible bridges was made available at the meeting. Approx. 145 county and local bridges are eligible for this program (about 40 percent of all bridges in Dutchess County), with the majority (96 bridges or 66 percent) under DCDPW jurisdiction.

Funding will be competitive and we will require separate applications for each proposed project. All projects will require a local government sponsor. If an application requires coordination with another agency, we will need a letter of support from that agency with your application. As with many federal highway programs, this program requires a 20 percent local match, so sponsors must be prepared to commit to this local share for all proposed projects. Sponsors should target construction for the 2019-2020 timeframe.

Mark noted that we would mail packets with information regarding the solicitation, the list of eligible bridges, and application to each municipality. Mark suggested that municipalities coordinate with the County Public Works Department before submitting an application to ensure that the bridge is not already on their capital program. Tom Weiner (NYSDOT) added that element-specific proposals for bridge work worked well in other county-wide solicitations that he has seen; he noted that the process is able to move along the process more efficiently this way. Tom also encouraged municipalities to verify the cost estimates within their applications, especially where right-of-way considerations are included.

5. FFY 2017-2021 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP)

TIP Amendment #17-03

Mark Debald (DCTC) noted that the DCTC periodically updates the TIP to add new projects, remove existing projects, or change a project’s cost, schedule, or scope. Major changes (e.g. adding a new project or adding funds in excess of 25% of the total project cost) are classified as amendments and require that the DCTC approve the changes by ballot or in-person voting; minor changes (e.g. minor

cost increases or schedule change) are classified as an administrative modification. Amendment #17-03 currently addresses three new federal highway funded projects:

- a. PIN 800908: Adds a new bridge replacement project on NYS Route 115 (Salt Point Turnpike) in the Town of Pleasant Valley. Total project cost is \$8.2 million and is funded by the National Highway Performance Program (NHPP). Mark Figliozi (Town of Pleasant Valley) noted that local residents are looking to restore the gas station adjacent to this location and may have some comments/feedback regarding this project; Tom Weiner (NYSDOT) will connect Mark with the team for this project so they can coordinate their goals for the area. Bob Balkind (DCDPW) inquired why the cost of the bridge replacement is so high; Tom Weiner (NYSDOT) noted that in addition to the standard bridge replacement, there are dams and buildings adjacent to the bridge that need to be addressed within this project scope.
- b. PIN 876148: Adds a new pedestrian safety project that improves pedestrian accessibility/crossing safety at various intersections in the Village of Red Hook: NYS Route 9/Route 199, Route 9/Prince St., Route 9/Farleigh St., Route 9/Morgan's Way, and Route 199/Phillips St. Funding stems from repurposed earmark funding. Total project cost is \$112,000. Emily Dozier (DCTC) inquired what the scope of this project would be; Tom Weiner (NYSDOT) stated that he thought the project includes flashing beacons, updated signage, crosswalks, and ramps. Emily added that it would be beneficial to change the signal timing at that location from a pedestrian 'scramble' to standard signal timing. Cynthia Ruiz (DCPT) added that a bus stop shelter would be appropriate at this location and she would reach out to the Village to see if they are interested.
- c. PIN 876174: Adds a new pedestrian project in the Village of Wappingers Falls, upgrading sidewalks along NYS Route 9D to meet ADA requirements. Funding stems from repurposed earmark funding. Total project cost is \$627,000.

As required by our Bylaws, the DCTC will need to hold a 15-day public comment period. Currently, action is delayed until the TAP/CMAQ projects are ready to be added to the TIP. The Amendment will be approved via mail ballot, given the limited number of actions on the Council's agenda for this spring/summer.

TIP Administrative Modification #17-D

Based on discussions with Dutchess County Public Works, some minor changes will be made to the following highway projects:

- a. PIN 875538: CR 9 (Beekman Rd.) realignment in the Town of Beekman/East Fishkill. Reschedule construction/construction inspection phases from FFY 2017 to 2018.
- b. PIN 875545: CR 93 (Myers Corners Rd.) realignment in the Town of Wappinger. Reschedule construction/construction inspection phases from FFY 2017 to 2018.

Additionally, the following projects are also included on Administrative Modification #17-D:

- a. PIN 806241: I-84 bridge replacement over the Beacon Line of the Metro-North Railroad in the Town of Fishkill. Removes the ROW Acquisition phase.

- b. PIN 80PS02: Re-scopes NYSDOT's multi-county Pedestrian Safety Action Plan (PSAP) project to include locations in Dutchess County.
- c. PIN 876145: Installation of 58 pedestrian countdown timers in the City of Beacon. Reschedule construction/construction inspection phases from FFY 2017 to 2018.

Mark also noted that PIN 875591, a bridge replacement on CR 14 (Hollow Rd.) over the Wappinger Creek in the Town of Clinton, has been authorized to proceed with construction.

6. Transit Performance Measures

Mark Debald (DCTC) noted that the FTA Transit Asset Management Rule, which went into effect on October 1, 2016, requires transit operators to develop and adopt a Transit Asset Management Plan that addresses State of Good Repair for rolling stock, infrastructure, equipment, and facilities. Mark noted that Tier 1 properties (those with rail systems or >100 peak hour bus fleet) must develop their own plan. Tier 2 properties may be part of a Group Plan; sub-recipients (for example, §5310 and §5311 recipients) will be part of a Group Plan developed by the direct recipient. There has been no specific guidance from FTA on the issue of multiple Designated Recipients in an MPO's metropolitan planning area, which could result in multiple targets. Key implementation dates include:

- a. January 1, 2017 and each year thereafter: targets for each of the asset classes must be submitted to the National Transit Database
- b. June 30, 2017, and each year thereafter: MPOs must adopt targets. Based on the Final Rule on Metropolitan Planning, the MPO has the option, as with all other performance targets, to (1) agree to program investments in support of the transit operator(s)' target, or (2) set their own quantifiable targets. It seems likely the first option will be selected, particularly prior to the completion of the Transit Asset Management Plan
- c. October 1, 2018: First Transit Asset Management Plan is due.

Based on discussions across the state, and in keeping with the practice for other performance measures, the mark recommended that the DCTC pursue the first option of agreeing to program investments that support the yet-to-be determined targets of local transit operators (DCPT and MTA). Mark Debald (DCTC) noted that operators have not yet established their transit performance measures. Mark summarized Draft Resolution 17-07, which addresses the new transit performance targets. There was some hesitation among the group to approve a resolution without stated performance goals. Cynthia Ruiz (DCPT) noted that she will send performance measures for the resolution to Mark. Also, Marleen Stein (MTA) added that a group at MTA is working on this and will have updates regarding it soon.

7. Dutchess County Complete Streets Checklist

Emily Dozier (DCTC) gave a presentation in which she provided an overview of the County's [Complete Streets Committee](#) and also the County's Complete Streets Checklist, which is included in the Complete Streets Policy that was approved by the County Legislature last year. Emily noted that "Complete Streets" is the concept that streets should be planned, designed, operated and maintained to support safe travel by all types of users: people walking, bicycling, taking transit, and

driving, as well as by people of all ages and abilities. She noted that the County Complete Streets Committee is composed of members from a variety of County departments: Planning/DCTC, Aging, Sheriff, Health, Traffic Safety Board, and Public Works. This Committee produced a Complete Streets Checklist based on national best practices and County Public Works uses the checklist when permitting projects come in to determine how a project affects various users. Also, the [Complete Streets Policy](#) is implemented by the County Public Works department on County facilities. Finally, Emily noted that the Complete Streets Committee is working on a public safety campaign for walking and bicycling education. She encouraged municipalities to visit the '[Watch Out for Me](#)' [webpage](#) for more information and campaign materials.

8. DCTC Logo

Mark Debald (DCTC) noted that we have transitioned our website to our new name and published the final UPWP under the DCTC name. We are using a very simple, interim logo, which is our name spelled out in dark blue and in a Calibri font. Mark noted that we are brainstorming ideas for our new logo; he passed out some sample logos and asked the group to send any ideas/feedback regarding the new logo. The consensus among the group was to incorporate multi-modal elements and the shape of the County into the new logo.

9. Project Updates

- Mark Debald (DCTC) announced that the Village of Millerton Pedestrian Plan is underway. The project kick-off meeting was held on March 23rd and a GPS inventory of existing conditions will begin soon. Mark also noted that the Village of Pawling will likely be the next sidewalk study after Millerton. He encouraged municipalities to reach out if they are interested in pursuing a future sidewalk study.
- Mark also mentioned that a Main Street Safety Assessment (City of Poughkeepsie) at the intersection of Worrall Ave. and Innis Ave. will occur today and tomorrow. This assessment will be conducted by a multi-disciplinary team and will focus on low-cost, quick safety improvements.
- Mark announced that the City of Poughkeepsie downtown parking RFP submissions are under review. The DCTC received six proposals and interviewed three finalists. A consultant was selected and we will finalize the contract in May to likely start work in June.
- Mark noted that the DCTC is working with the City of Poughkeepsie and the County to assist in the disposition/transfer of FTA assets from the City to the County for the bus system. He noted that the DCTC has a resolution in place to facilitate this transfer in the event that the two entities agree to the consolidation.

10. Public Participation

Cynthia Ruiz (DCPT) announced that she will be retiring in the middle of May and Tom Weiner (NYSDOT) announced that he will be retiring in June – congratulations to both Cynthia and Tom!

11. Next Meeting: Wednesday, May 24, 2017 at 10:00 a.m. at the Dutchess County Department of Planning & Development (27 High St, Poughkeepsie).

Attendance List

	First Name	Last Name	Organization	Phone
1	Mark	Debald	DCTC	845-486-3600
2	Emily	Dozier	DCTC	845-486-3600
3	Shelby	Frangk	DCTC	845-486-3600
4	Emily	McDaniels	DCTC	845-486-3600
5	Tom	Weiner	NYS DOT	845-431-5723
6	Ray	Oberly	Town of Clinton	845-266-5721
7	Bob	LaColla	Town of Fishkill	845-831-7800
8	Joseph	Kane	City of Poughkeepsie	845-451-4192
9	Randy	Casale	City of Beacon (by phone)	845-838-5010
10	Marleen	Stein	MTA (by phone)	212-340-4011
11	Cynthia	Ruiz	DCPT	845-473-8521
12	Matt	Alexander	Village of Wappingers Falls	845-297-8773
13	Shelly	Johnston	Creighton Manning Engineering	518-689-1814
14	Mark	Figliozi	Town of Pleasant Valley	845-635-3598
15	Bob	Balkind	DCDPW	845-486-2085